

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1 through 8 and 15 without prejudice or disclaimer. Please amend claims 9 through 14 and 16 through 19 as set forth below. Applicants note that all claims currently pending in the application, except for claims 1 through 8 and 15, are shown below for clarity.

Claims 1 through 8 (Cancelled)

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A coating composition comprising:
a mixture of (i) polymer selected from the group consisting of cellulose acetate butyrate, cellulose acetate propionate, polymethylmethacrylate, mixtures thereof, and mixtures of any of the foregoing with ethyl cellulose, (ii);

solvent selected from the group consisting of acetone, mixtures of acetone and water and mixtures of acetone and lower alkanols having 1-8 carbon atoms; and

optionally (iii), one or more additives selected from the group consisting of plasticizers and flux enhancers;

wherein the coating composition is adapted to provide a semipermeable membrane exhibiting a water transmission rate of between 1-60 cc·ml/cm²·hr.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The coating composition of claim 9, wherein the solvent is selected from the group consisting of acetone, a mixture of acetone and water, a mixture of acetone and methanol, and a mixture of acetone and ethanol.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): The coating composition of claim 10, wherein the concentration of acetone in the solvent is at least 80% by volume.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The coating composition of claim 11, wherein the concentration of acetone in the solvent is at least 90% by volume.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): The coating composition of claim 9, wherein the polymer concentration in the solvent is between 1-15% (w/v).

91

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): The coating composition of claim 13, wherein the polymer concentration in the solvent is between 2-8% (w/v).

Claim 15 (Cancelled)

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): The coating composition of claim 10 adapted to ~~eat~~
~~provide~~ a semipermeable membrane exhibiting a water transmission rate of between 3-45
cc·ml/cm²·hr.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): The coating composition of claim 9, wherein the polymer is selected from the group consisting of cellulose acetate butyrate and mixtures of cellulose acetate butyrate and ethyl cellulose.

92

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): The coating composition of claim 9, wherein the polymer is selected from the group consisting of cellulose acetate propionate and mixtures of cellulose acetate propionate and ethyl cellulose.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): The coating composition of claim 9, wherein the polymer is selected from the group consisting of polymethylmethacrylate and mixtures of polymethylmethacrylate and ethyl cellulose.